

SENATE BILL 2724

By Fowler

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 44, Part 1, relative to open meetings.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-44-103, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

(d)

(1) If a governmental body maintains its own Internet web site or if such governmental body is a department or agency of a governmental entity maintaining its own Internet web site, then the governmental body may comply with the requirements of this section by electronically posting, on the web site, public notice of the specific purpose, time and place of the regular or special meeting.

(2) If a governmental body is a department or agency of municipal government, then the governmental body may comply with the requirements of this section by electronically posting, on the Internet web site maintained by the Tennessee Municipal League (TML), public notice of the specific purpose, time and place of the regular or special meeting.

(3) If a governmental body is a department or agency of county government, then the governmental body may comply with the requirements of this section by electronically posting, on the Internet web site maintained by the County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS), public notice of the specific purpose, time and place of the regular or special meeting.

(4) A governmental body may comply with the requirements of this section by electronically posting public notice of the specific purpose, time and place of the regular or special meeting within an electronically published newspaper having content primarily relating to the county or region of the state in which the governmental body is located.

(5)

(A) Unless unavoidably exigent circumstances clearly require otherwise, at a minimum, electronic notices posted pursuant to this subsection must be posted throughout the seventy-two (72) hour period immediately preceding the regular or special meeting of the governmental body.

(B) Any governmental body posting public notice pursuant to this subsection must take appropriate actions to adequately inform and remind the public of the Internet web site address at which public notices of the governmental body are posted.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002, the public welfare requiring it.